

# Issuance of Permits for Selected Animal Species and Enforcement of all CDC Import Permit Requirements

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# Quarantine and Border Health Services Branch Mission



The mission of the Quarantine and Border Health Services Branch (QBHSB) is to protect U.S. communities from global disease threats.

QBHSB supports this mission by:

- Preventing the introduction and spread of communicable diseases
- Enhancing federal, state and industry partnerships
- Enforcing public health regulations

## QBHSB Role in Import Permits

- **Issuance of selected permits and letters of permission**
  - Restricted live animals
  - Restricted animal products
- **Enforcement of import regulations at U.S. ports of entry**
  - CDC Quarantine Stations
  - Partnership with U.S. Customs and Border Protection and other federal, state, and local agencies

## Issuance of Permits and Letters of Permission

- **Restricted live animals**
  - Family Viverridae (civets and related animals)
  - Freshwater turtles, tortoises, and terrapins <4 inches in length (including viable eggs)
  - Nonhuman primates
  - African rodents
- **Restricted animal products**
  - Family Viverridae (civets and related animals)
  - Nonhuman primates\*
  - African rodents
- **Other live animals and animal products restricted by CDC IPP (e.g., bats, certain species of snails)**

\* Nonhuman primate product import permits are currently issued by the CDC IPP after approval by QBHSB

## Family Viverridae (Civets and Related Animals)

- Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) outbreak during 2002–2003
- Civets linked to SARS transmission
- Emergency embargo effective as of January 13, 2004
- Still covered under embargo order authorized by 42 CFR 71.32(b)



## Family Viverridae (Civets and Related Animals) (cont)

- **Embargo includes all members of Family Viverridae**
  - Genets
  - Linsangs
  - Binturongs
  - Civets, except for African Palm Civet (Family Nandiniidae)
- **Applies to live animals and animal products**
  - Products may be imported without a permit if rendered noninfectious
  - Shipment must be accompanied by a statement of how the products were rendered noninfectious using one of the methods listed at <http://www.cdc.gov/importation/animalproducts.html>
- **Permission letter application process**
  - Entry allowed only for science, education or exhibition
  - Submit request to [CDCAAnimalImports@cdc.gov](mailto:CDCAAnimalImports@cdc.gov)

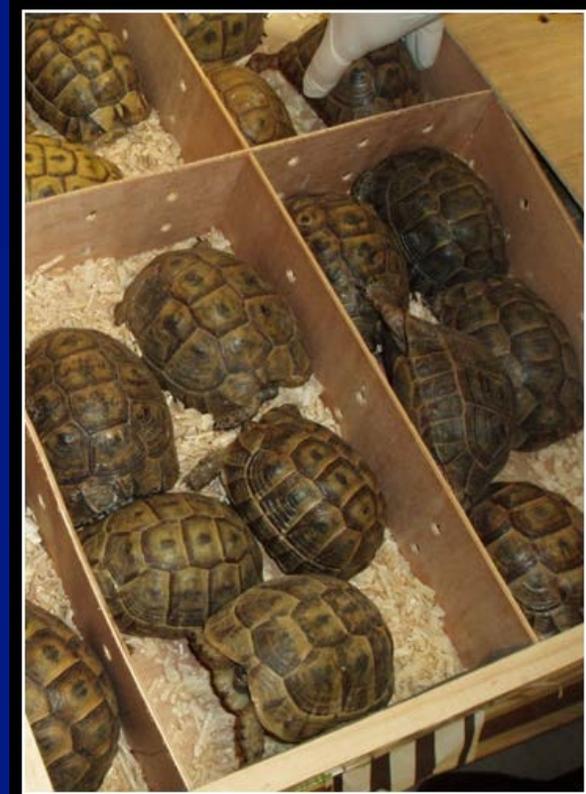
## Freshwater Turtles, Tortoises, and Terrapins

- *Salmonella* infection outbreaks in children associated with contact with small turtles
- Commercial purposes
  - Turtles with carapace <4" may NOT be imported
  - Viable turtle eggs may NOT be imported
- Noncommercial purposes
  - Up to a total of 6 viable eggs or live turtles with carapace <4" may be allowed
  - More than 6 allowed for science, educational, or exhibition purposes, with CDC permission



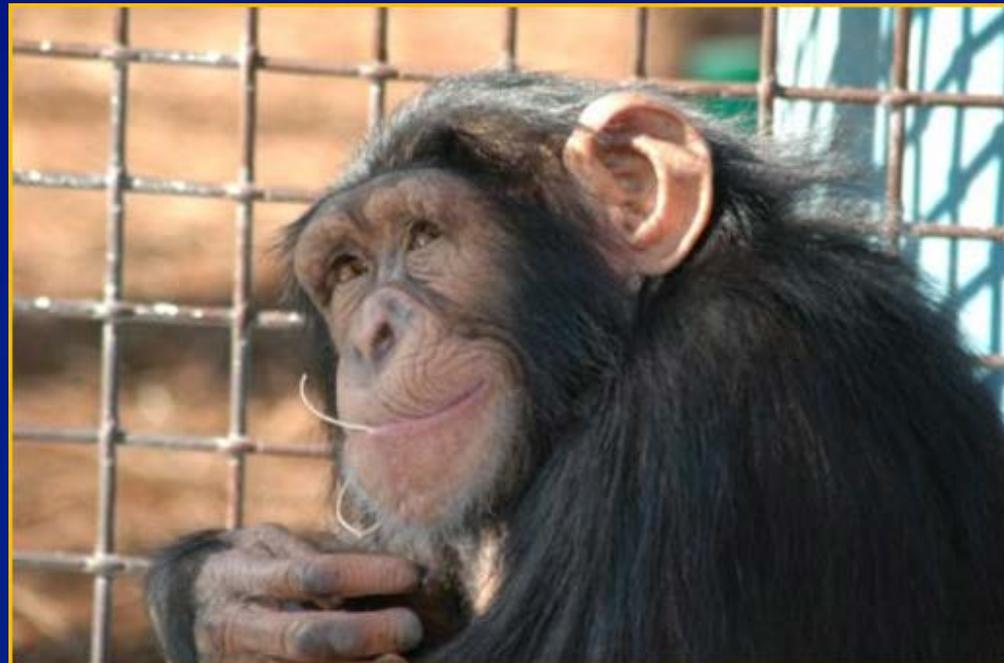
## Freshwater Turtles, Tortoises, and Terrapins (cont)

- CDC regulations do not apply to sea turtles
- Upon admission to the United States, turtles <4 inches in length become subject to FDA restrictions
- Submit request for letter of permission via email to [CDCAnimalImports@cdc.gov](mailto:CDCAnimalImports@cdc.gov)



## Nonhuman Primate (NHP) Import History

- NHP import regulations strengthened in 1990 following 1989 Ebola Reston outbreak in the United States
- NHP regulations revised further in 2013



## 1989 Outbreak of Ebola Reston

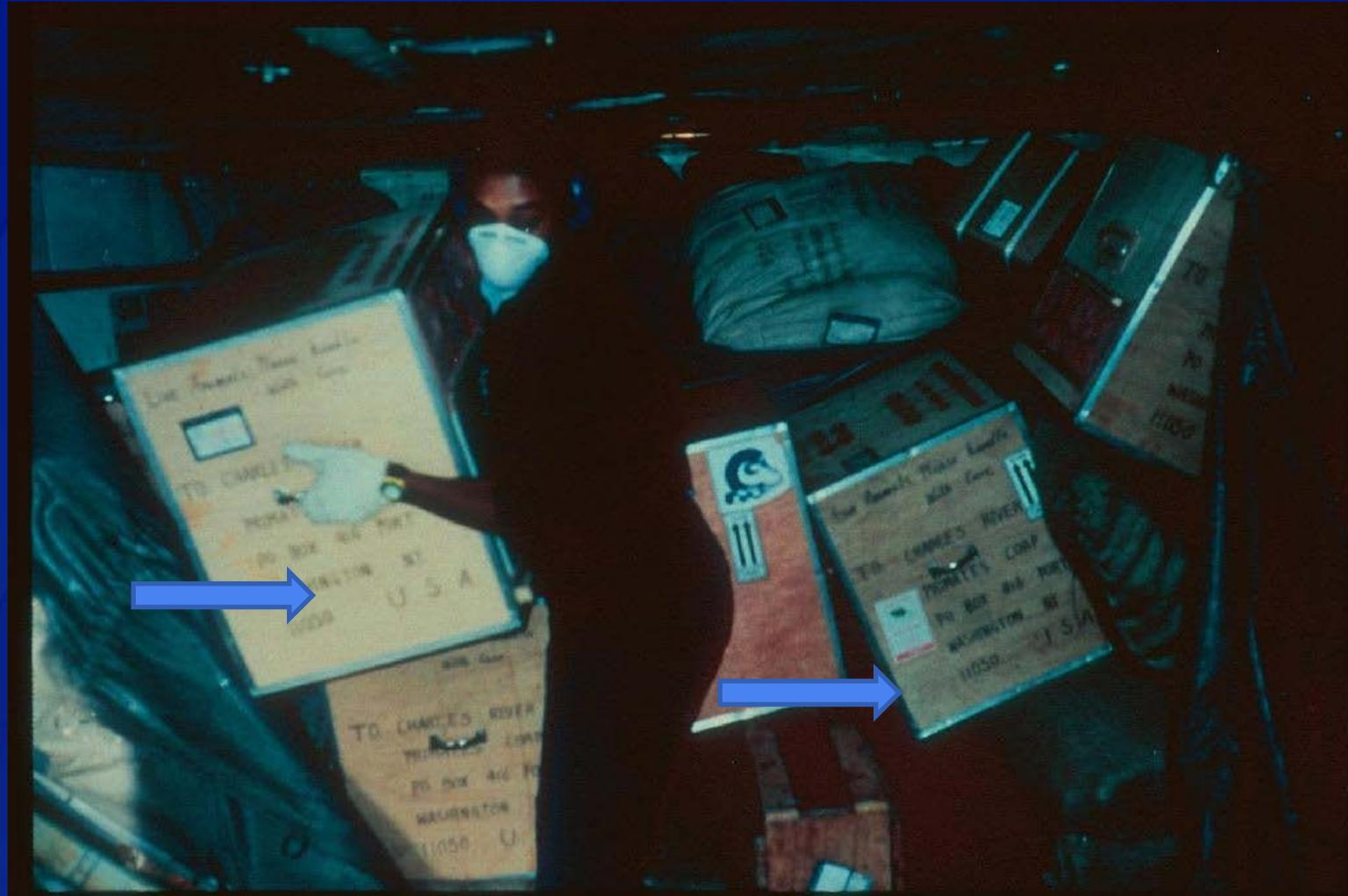
- Viral hemorrhagic fever in a group of imported NHPs
- First thought to be simian hemorrhagic fever
- Illness spread through monkeys at the facility
- Facility was depopulated — 500 animals euthanized
- Six people associated with this outbreak seroconverted
- No human illness



## Live NHPs

- **Registration/permit process**
  - Importers must be registered with CDC
  - Entry allowed only for science, education or exhibition
  - For more information on registering as an NHP importer, contact CDC at [CDCAnimalImports@cdc.gov](mailto:CDCAnimalImports@cdc.gov)
- **Strict procedures for shipping animals and transporting them to the CDC-approved quarantine facility**
- **Post-arrival quarantine period**
- **Quarantine facility inspection by CDC**

## Prior to 1990 Regulations



## After 1990 Regulations



## NHP Products

- **NHP products include any tissue or sample from an NHP**
  - Trophies or souvenirs
  - Diagnostic or scientific samples
  - Other
- **CDC import permit required**
  - Products may be imported without a permit if rendered noninfectious
  - Shipment must be accompanied by a statement of how the products were rendered noninfectious using one of the methods listed at <http://www.cdc.gov/importation/animalproducts.html>
- **Permit application process**
  - Entry allowed only for science, education or exhibition
  - Apply for permit through CDC Import Permit Program
  - Application routed to QBHSB for review and approval

## African Rodents

- Restrictions followed a 2003 monkeypox outbreak in the United States
- Linked to African rodents imported for the pet trade
- A total of 71 human cases were investigated
- First human monkeypox cases reported outside of Africa



## African Rodents (cont.)

- Immediate embargo and domestic ban by Health and Human Services (HHS) effective June 11, 2003
- International import embargo later codified as a regulation, 42 CFR 71.56
- FDA domestic interstate movement restrictions lifted in September 2008



## African Rodents (cont)

- **Embargo includes all African rodents**
  - All rodents imported directly from Africa
  - All rodents born in Africa, even if imported from a third country
  - All rodents with a native range that includes Africa, even if born outside of Africa
- **Applies to live animals and animal products**
  - Products may be imported without a permit if rendered noninfectious
  - Shipment must be accompanied by a statement of how the products were rendered noninfectious using one of the methods listed at <http://www.cdc.gov/importation/animalproducts.html>
- **Permission letter application process**
  - Entry allowed only for science, education or exhibition
  - Submit request to [CDCAAnimalImports@cdc.gov](mailto:CDCAAnimalImports@cdc.gov)

# **ENFORCEMENT OF CDC IMPORT REGULATIONS**

CDC Quarantine Stations and Partnerships at U.S. Ports of Entry

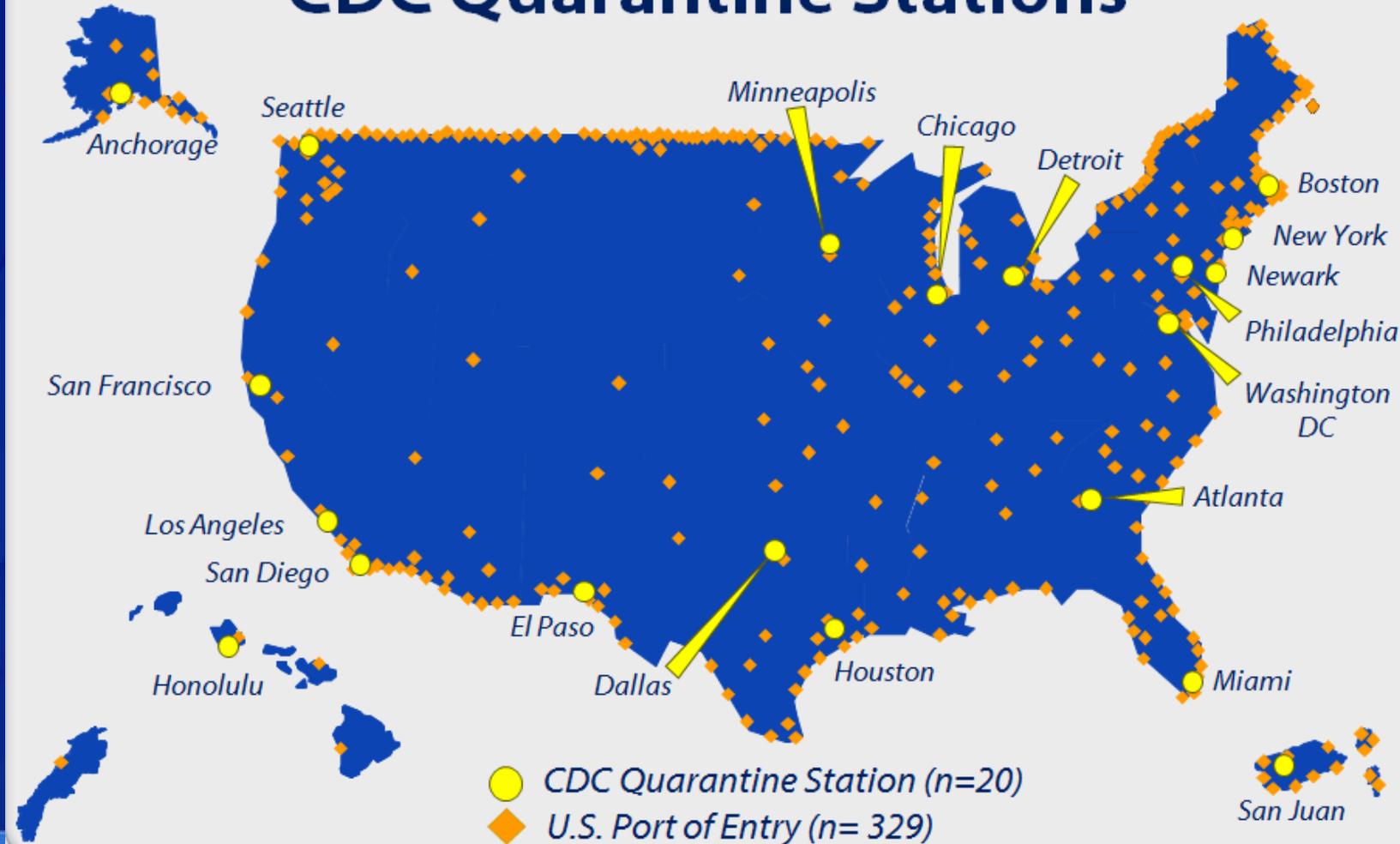
## QBHSB Operations

- Manage CDC Quarantine Stations and strategically lead the U.S. Quarantine System with key partners
- Execute federal authority for quarantine, isolation, and communicable disease surveillance at U.S. ports of entry

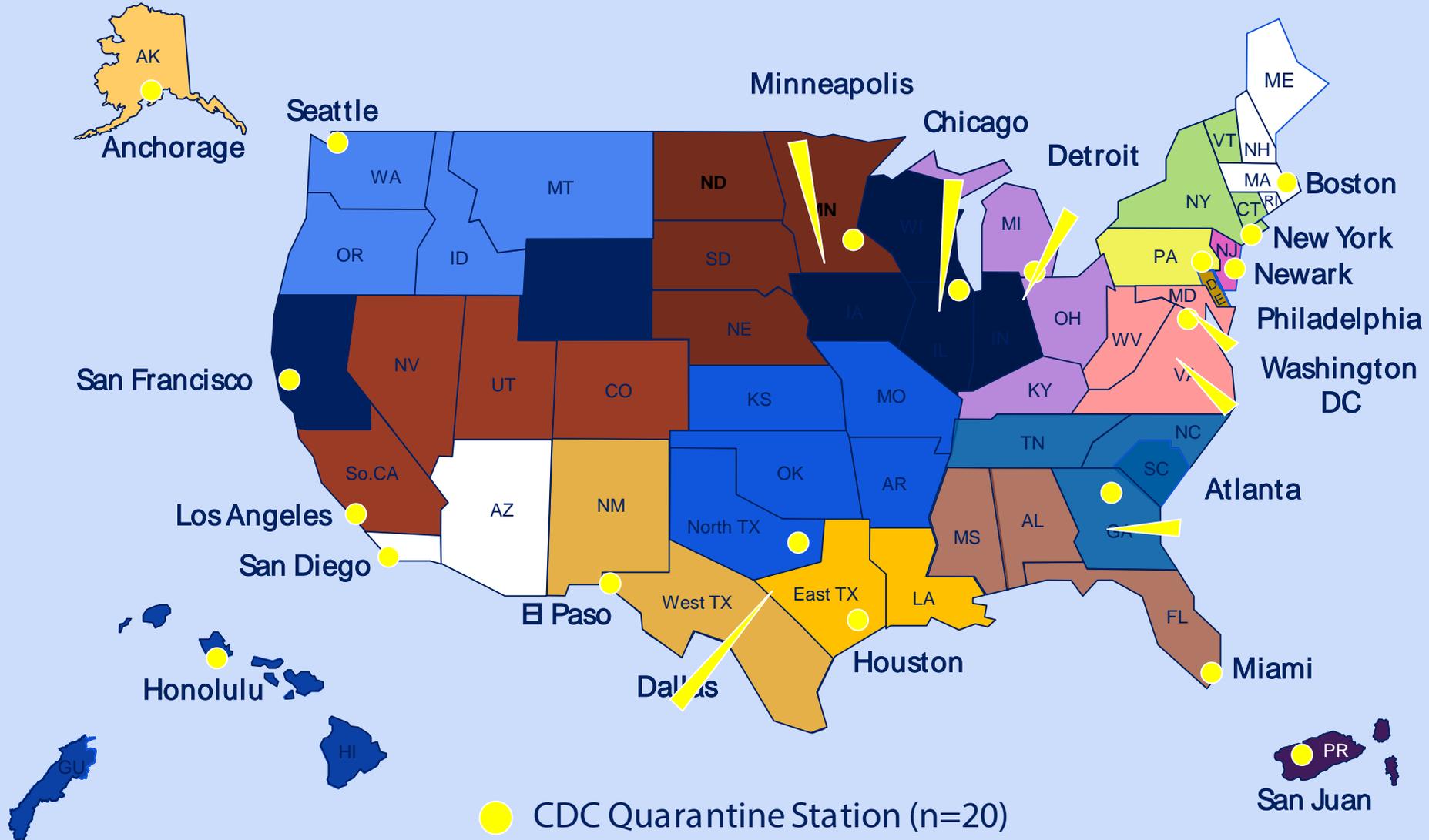


# CDC Quarantine Stations

## U.S. POE and CDC Quarantine Stations



# CDC Quarantine Station Jurisdictions



## QBHSB Import Operations

- Provide support to U.S. Customs and Border Protection at ports of entry for CDC-regulated imports
- Coordinate with other federal, state, and local agencies as needed
- Make entry decisions on CDC-regulated imports
- Coordinate with CDC Import Permit Program to ensure that CDC-restricted imports have proper permits or documentation
- For assistance with an import issue at a specific port of entry, contact the CDC Quarantine Station with jurisdiction
  - <http://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/quarantinestationcontactlistfull.html>
  - Direct more general questions or requests for permits to the CDC Import Permit Program or Importations and Animal Contact Team

# Questions?



For more information please contact Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

1600 Clifton Road NE, Mailstop C-01, Atlanta, GA 30333

Telephone: 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)/TTY: 1-888-232-6348

E-mail: [CDCAnimalImports@cdc.gov](mailto:CDCAnimalImports@cdc.gov)

Web: <http://www.cdc.gov/importation/>



National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases

Division of Global Migration and Quarantine